

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 SIG-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 HA-05 /081 R

DRAFTED BY AF/S:LRMACFARLANE/HFO

APPROVED BY AF/S:HKAISER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO PRIORITY

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FOR THE AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV PDIP SF WA ZA

SUBJECT: STATEMENT ON CAPRIVI/ZAMBIA SITUATION

REF: EDMONDSON/MACFARLANE TELCON 8/26/78

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF DEPARTMENT STATEMENT ON CAPRIVI/
ZAMBIA SITUATION MADE AVAILABLE TO PRESS LATE AUGUST 25.
DUE TO WEEKEND, WE ARE UNAWARE THUS FAR OF ANY PRESS
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COVERAGE BASED ON STATEMENT, BUT WILL ADVISE OF SIGNIFI-
CANT COVERAGE AS IT OCCURS.

2. BEGIN TEXT: THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT WISHES TO
NOTE ITS GREAT CONCERN ABOUT THE CONFLICT THAT HAS OCCURRED
IN RECENT DAYS IN THE CAPRIVI STRIP AND SOUTHERN ZAMBIA.
WE DEPLORE VIOLENCE, FROM WHATEVER SOURCE, AND SEE THESE

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS AS A FURTHER INSTANCE OF THE DANGEROUS CYCLE OF VIOLENCE AND REPRESSION WHICH THE NAMIBIAN SETTLEMENT EFFORT SEEKS TO END.

THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATES ITSELF WITH THE CALL OF UNITED NATIONS SECRETARY GENERAL WALDHEIM FOR RESTRAINT, AND HOPES THAT ALL PARTIES INVOLVED WITH THE NAMIBIAN ISSUE WILL LOOK BEYOND THE RECENT CONFLICT TOWARD

WAYS OF PREVENTING A RECURRENCE OF SUCH ACTS. THE ESSENTIAL TASK REMAINS IMPLEMENTING THE PROPOSAL APPROVED BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL, THUS ESTABLISHING A CEASEFIRE AND INITIATING THE PROCESS LEADING TOWARD INDEPENDENCE FOR NAMIBIA.

IN THIS CONNECTION, WE ARE HEARTENED BY THE STATEMENT OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN PRIME MINISTER ON AUGUST 24 INDICATING THAT SOUTH AFRICA REMAINS FIRMLY COMMITTED TO A PEACEFUL SOLUTION OF THE NAMIBIAN ISSUE. WE HOPE THAT ALL CONCERNED WILL MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO PREVENT A RECURRENCE OF VIOLENCE AND COMMIT THEMSELVES TO LETTING THE SETTLEMENT EFFORT GO FORWARD PEACEFULLY. END QUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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